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Knife terror for shop staff

Letters 12 · Crossword 20

Eve, 92, has memoir published

MY EVICTION NIGHTMARE

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

Tenant fears his family will be left homeless but council say he had abandoned his flat

A MAN fears he and his partner and children will be left homeless over what he claims was a lack of communication by the borough council when he was evicted from his Skelmersdale flat after living away for a few months to help look after a dying relative.

Unemployed mechanic Paul McCarthy returned to his flat on Fairleigh, along with his heavily pregnant partner Katie Walsh, 23 and two–year–old daughter Kai, to find the locks had been changed.

All of his belongings and documents had also been destroyed.

Mr McCarthy, 45, and his family, left the flat in December to stay with his relatives in Birmingham.

They then went to London in January to help care for his partner's grandfather, who became increasingly ill and died in February. They stayed for the funeral and to help sort out his estate.

When they returned to the flat they found the lock shad been changed and his possessions had been removed.

He said: "A stranger answered and explained that he lived there now.

"I couldn't believe it – one minute we were on our way home, the next minute my heavily pregnant partner had to sleep overnight on a park bench with my tiny daughter, with me watching over them, it was traumatic.

"You don't expect to come back from helping your family to find that you live on the streets."

The family – which now includes 10 week old baby Anthony – and their two dogs were taken in by friends – but he fears for them all now as the flat they are staying in does not allow pets and they face eviction once more.

Mr McCarthy says he filled out housing forms in Birmingham and again in London to have his rent paid while he was away but West Lancashire Borough Council say they had not received them and had no knowledge of his whereabouts.

A spokesman said they had tried to contact him in November and when they failed to do so they served a 28 day 'notice to quit' and then repossessed the flat as it appeared he had abandoned the property.

As a result, he will not eligible to apply for re–housing until December 2013. Mr McCarthy described the sitauiation as is "a nightmare."

He added: "I have no home, no belongings, no job.

"Everything is gone, our couch, tables, beds, furniture, picture frames – and all our personal items including photographs of my family and of my baby daughter.

"My tools are also gone as well as personal documents like our birth certificates, tax forms, passport and bank statements. Some cannot be replaced."

He claims he has had conflicting information from West Lancashire Borough Council. He said: "They asked for paperwork proving all my rent payments for the last

Continued inside.

Paul McCarthy outside his former flat.

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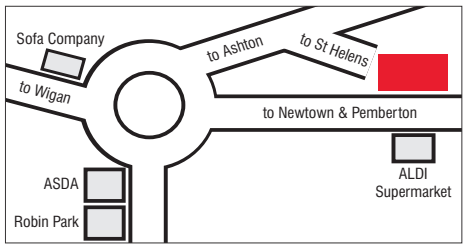

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Council cash boost for community groups

Report by **Henry James**

COMMUNITY groups and individuals across West Lancashire have been given almost £7,000 worth of funding by the borough council.

The full amounts awarded from the latest round of the council's Community Chest applications are as follows:

West Lancashire Allotments Federation, £200; Tanhouse Morris Dancers, £300; Skelmersdale Action for Youth, £200; 17th Ormskirk/1st Skelmersdale Cubs, £250; The Legacy Rainbow House, £250; 3rd Burscough Brownies and Guides, £250; Be–D–Stressed Training, Skelmersdale, £700; Haskayne and Downholland Community Association, £400; Marlborough Court Residents Association, Skelmersdale, £307; 1026 (Ormskirk) Squadron,£300; and Lost Future Crew, £650; Village Chatt, £500; Ormskirk Youth Hub/Lunchtime Youth Hub Holiday Club, £700; Onevoice West Lancashire, £650; Rachel Baughen, £250; Ellie Ogaza, £250; Skelmersdale North JFC, £500; and MITCH FC, £250.

Cllr David Sudworth, Conservative Group spokesman for leisure, said: "I am pleased that, once again, this Conservative council is able to support local individuals and community organisations.

"There were some excellent bids from right across West Lancashire – including Ormskirk, Burscough, Skelmersdale, Haskayne and Downholland – and I hope this cash boost will help the groups and individuals involved.

"Despite tough times, and the Labour Group's call to axe the Community Chest altogether, we are determined to do all we can to provide appropriate assistance to the voluntary community."

Artist signs off with a personal take on college life

AN artist from Hesketh Bank has been commissioned to create three works to represent college life as his time at Cardinal Newman College in Preston draws to a close.

Michael Robinson, 25, attended the college as a student before going to Glyndwr University and taking a BA honours degree in Fine Art. Now a qualified teacher, he returned as an artist in residence and student coach last September.

He has created the works, which will remain at the college when he leaves at the end of this month. The college will host his exhibition at the End of Year show on Thursday, June 20.

He said: "My year of residency running workshops, teaching lessons and making works is sadly coming to an end. Now I hope to get involved in future commissions, workshops and community work.

"I have worked for a number of charities including Barnardo's, painting with children and young adults with learning disabilities. Making art is important to me and I want art to be accessible to everyone."

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Eve has her first book published at age of 92

Memoir recounts her life growing up in Liverpool

Report by **Henry James**

SHE has written all her life and some of her poems have been printed in magazines – and now Skelmersdale woman Eve Fletcher has had her first book published at the age of 92.

The book is called Lucky – Memoirs of a Liverpool Lass Growing Up in the 1900s, and is a personal reflection on her life.

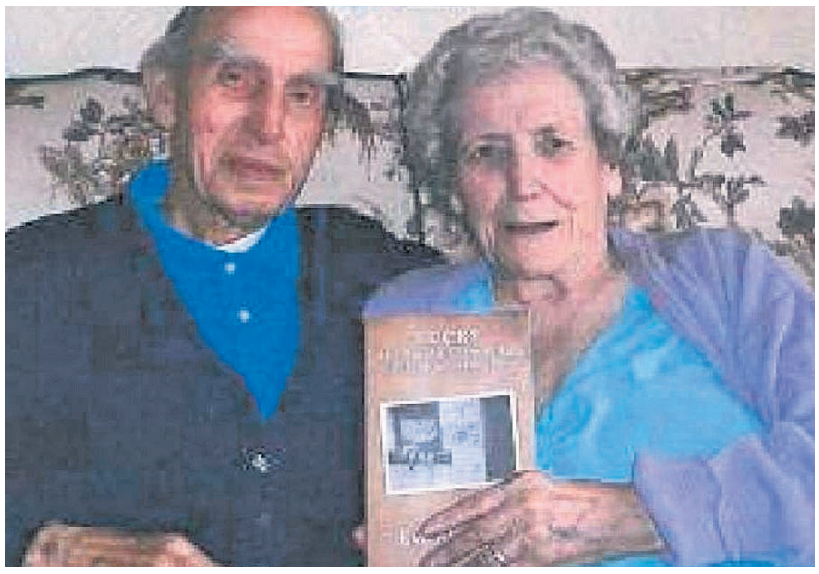
In the book Eve recounts her life growing up in the city. It includes the struggle of growing up in the Depression when families had to sell their homes and move in with relatives.

Eve's granddaughter Melanie persuaded her to write the book as she wanted her young daughter Olivia, and future generations, to know what life was like in the 1920s and 30s.

It is a period when there were gas lamps in the streets and outside toilets, but Eve also mentions the famous indomitable Liverpool spirit, which is still present today.

Eve's book also tells about her time driving an ambulance for the Civil Defence Ambulance Service during the Second World War while her husband, John, was in the Royal Air Force.

A family member told The Champion: "We take a lot for granted now, like going to the bathroom indoors, but it was a lot different for Eve when she was growing up.



Eve with her husband John.

"We are all very proud of mum for having her first book published. Mum has written all her life and to have her first book published at the age of 92 is a great achievement."

Eve and, John, also 92, have three children, eight grandchildren, 18 great grandchildren and one great great grandson. The couple, who now live in Eskbank, moved to Skelmersdale in 1972 and say they are still happy there.

Lucky – Memoirs of a Liverpool Lass Growing Up in the 1900s is published by Austin Macauley and is available from major book stores.

henry.james@champnews.com

The Swinging Blue Jeans played at the famous Cavern club.

Singing Blue Jeans drummer opens music tuition school

JOHN Lawrence, drummer with 1960s group The Swinging Blue Jeans, has opened a tuition studio in Skelmersdale along with seasoned fellow musician Terry Jacobsen.

The Swinging Blue Jeans were the first ever resident house band at the famous Cavern venue in Liverpool and appeared with The Beatles, Gerry and the Pacemakers and The Searchers.

The Puppet tuition studio offers music tuition in guitar, drums, vocals, piano and bass in their brand new music suite based on Liverpool Road.

It also offers rock band workshops in its performance venue. No previous experience is necessary.

It will be open seven days a week from 10am to 8pm.

For further informationring 07717 590123.

Family evicted in council flat row

From page 1

five years but all of my paperwork has been destroyed."

He also claims he has not been told where his belongings are.

"I spent 30 years collecting my tools. My late granddad gave me the trolley jack as a present to get started when I began training to be a mechanic at 15.

"I was made unemployed last year but I was hoping to get back on my feet and start working again. I've been offered jobs to do – but I can't do them with all my tools gone."

A spokesman for West Lancashire Borough Council said: "In November, 2012, the keys to the address on Fairlie were returned to the council by a neighbour.

"Investigations commenced to try to determine the whereabouts of the tenant and a legally valid 28 day 'Notice to Quit' was served at the property on 19 November.

"As the tenant failed to contact the council during the notice period the property was repossessed on 17 December 2012. There is no record of Mr McCarthy having let the council know of his intention to be away from his home, and we had no information about his location.

"The council has a procedure for dealing with cases like this where a property is abandoned by a tenant. We can confirm that we followed the procedure in terminating the tenancy and were satisfied that the house was not habitable and disposed of the few items left in the property which had no or limited value.

"As a result of the abandoning the property, Mr McCarthy is not eligible to apply for re–housing until December 2013.

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Crimewatch comes to Lancashire

THE BBC's Crimewatch Roadshow is focusing on Lancashire this week.

The show, which airs between 9.15 and 10am each weekday, will feature re–constructions of crimes from across the county, CCTV appeals and people currently wanted by police in Lancashire. It will also highlight some of the day–to–day work that goes on to prevent crime in the county.

Lancashire Constabulary's assistant chief constable, Mark Bates said: "The Crimewatch Roadshow programme was very popular last year and we were keen to take the opportunity, not only to showcase the hard work that goes on in Lancashire every day, but also to appeal for information about incidents and crimes that we are keen to progress enquires on and that mean the most to communities.

"Despite crime rates continuing to fall we are not complacent and we remain committed to keeping our communities safe from harm, and through our local policing teams we will ensure that we remain accessible and in touch with community priorities."

There will be a number of appeals featured and anyone who has any information about a crime featured is urged to call the programme on 08000 468999 or text CW then the message to 63399 or email CWR@bbc.co.uk. People can also call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

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Festival showing for pub campaign film

By Danielle Thompson

A DOCUMENTARY highlighting an ultimately unsuccessful campaign to save a popular local pub from demolition has been shown at an international film festival.

The 'Save the Bec' campaign – aimed at preserving the Becconsall Hotel in Hesketh Bank – ran from 2011 until the pub was eventually demolished in February last year.

The site was turned into land for development but the action group continued to campaign for developers to improve their plans for the site and they ended up working together on the style for the new buildings.

Úna McBride spearheaded the campaign with her late mother, known locally simply as Mrs Mc, who used to run the Becconsall in its heyday.

Speaking about her mother, to whom the documentary was dedicated, Una said: "My mother was a figurehead in the community, she loved to bring the community together and give them a voice. She didn't even smoke or drink, she just wanted to save the Becconsall for others."

Entitled Closure, the 14–minute documentary about the campaign was directed by Ed Cartledge. It was nominated for the Sheffield Short Documentary award at the Sheffield Doc/Fest 2013 but lost out to Slomo by Josh Izenberg.

It was one of more than 100 films shown over five days from Wednesday to Sunday, June 12 to 16 and a first at the festival for the self–taught 33–year–old director whose full–time job is filming documentaries for charities and firms.

Recalling the two–year journey to complete the film, Ed said: "We made it with a very small budget, filming at crucial stages of the campaign. In the beginning we were still open–minded about how it might all unfold and although sadly it didn't end how Úna dreamed, she is such a positive person she saw the silver lining in that they brought the community together.

The cover for Closure Code NA

"The bonds between the community and the McBride family were central to the story."

Sheffield Doc/Fest film programmer, Hussain Currimbhoy described the film as: "One of the rare creative shorts that plays with the language of film and at the same time cuts to the heart of a changing culture."

Clips of the documentary can be viewed at www.closure–doc.com

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The McColls convenience store in Lyndhurst was robbed by a knife wielding gang.

Knife gang threaten shop staff – then steal cash and cigs

Report by **Henry James**

POLICE have sought to reassure the public after an armed robbery at a convenience store in Skelmersdale.

In the latest incident shop staff at the McColls Convenience store on Lyndhurst were left traumatised when they were threatened by a gang of six hooded men brandishing knives who then stole cash and cigarettes.

The robbery happened just before 11pm on Thursday, June 13 and follows an armed robbery at a shop in Tanfields on Good Friday and at a post office in Up Holland in January.

A spokesman for the West Lancs neighbourhood policing team said: "We are aware that local residents may have some concerns following the recent armed robbery but we would reassure the public that we have a dedicated team of officers investigating the incident." Detective Constable Martin Hulme added that while the shop assistants were not hurt they will have been left traumatised by their experience.

He added: "I would appeal to anyone who was in the area at the time and who witnessed what happened to come forward and contact the police.

"I am also keen to speak to people who may have witnessed some suspicious activity or a suspicious vehicle in the area prior to the robbery.

"I am keen to speak to people who may have seen the offenders leave the scene as we need to build up a picture of where they went following the incident."

Anyone with information is asked to call Skelmersdale CID on 101 quoting log reference number 1636 or June 13.

People can also contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or at Crimestoppers–uk.org.

Lifeguards to give safety skills day at Nye Bevan pool

SWIMMERS in Skelmersdale will be giving a safety skills day on by lifeguards on Sunday, June 23 to raise awareness of the dangers of drowning.

Nye Bevan Swimming Pool is highlighting concerns over the Royal Lifesaving Guard UK's Drowning Prevention Week which runs from Saturday, June 22 to Sunday, June 30.

Shockingly more than 400 people die from drowning in the UK each year and nearly 60 of these are children, and children are more likely to die in pools abroad than at home.

Lifeguards, including Conrad Horn, 47, who has been teaching vital skills at the pool for the last two years, will offer advice on how to stay safe at the beach, swimming pool, at home, at inland water sites and on holiday.

With the school holidays just around the corner, he is urging families to come along for the taster day, which will teach basic water safety and first aid.

Mr Horn is hoping children will join the pool's Survive and Save Lifesaving classes, held on Tuesday nights at 8pm. To join the classes or for more information contact Nye Bevan pool on 01695 727111.

Conrad Horn (right) with Survive and Save instructors.

Army to hold recruitment clinic

BRITAIN'S army boots will hit the ground in Skelmersdale as part of a nationwide recruitment campaign to bring 10,000 soldiers into the army.

People are invited to attend a recruitment event at the Jobcentre Plus clinic in Skelmersdale on Thursday, June 27.

It will provide potential recruits with more information about the variety of jobs available in the army as well as an opportunity to meet and talk to young serving soldiers about what the army can offer.

It is part of a campaign to dispel the misconception that the army is not looking for new recruits.

Brigadier Andrew Jackson, director of recruiting and training for the army, said: "We are always looking for talented young people to take up the challenge of a career in the army.

"No matter what your skills or background, the army has something to offer you and an army job provides opportunities to learn much more beyond military skills."

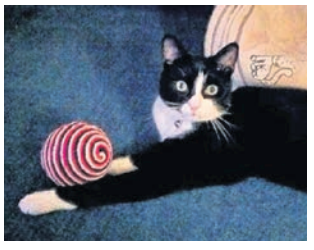
Family appeal for lost cat

A FAMILY from Inglewhite, Birch Green Skelmersdale are urging the public to come forward if they have any news of their missing one–year–old cat Harry.

Owner Gail Harrison said: "Please help us find Harry, someone must have seen him.

"He is a much–loved member of our family and really missed."

If you have seen Harry, call Gail Harrison on 01695 725842.



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Host of attractions in store at Rose Queen event

HOLY Trinity Church, Tarleton, which celebrates its 125th anniversary this year, is staging its Rose Queen Day 2013 on Saturday, June 22.

Gates open at 1pm, admission is £1 for adults and free for children, and all are welcome.

As well as the crowning of the new Rose Queen, Sammy West, there will be a whole host of attractions including the amazing Tricks For Treats dog display team, a giant slide, throw a sponge, a talent showcase, football challenge and much more.

Refreshments will be on sale, there will be various stalls and there will also be a chance to enjoy a brass band, plus morris and maypole dancing.

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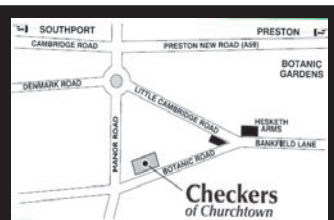

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Answers wanted

MP calls for football club to reveal academy plans

Report by **Henry James**

WIGAN Athletic Football Club have been challenged to publicly confirm or deny whether they are putting on hold plans to develop their youth academy at Wrightington.

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper spoke out after BBC sports reporter and presenter, Richard Askam, tweeted on Friday, June 14: 'Dave Whelan says everything to be thrown at promotion push. Academy development on hold for now.'

The MP's office contacted the club asking them to confirm if the academy plans had stalled. Wigan responded by saying they were not making a public statement on this matter.

In mid–May following the club's relegation from the Premier League, Ms Cooper wrote to Wigan's chief executive, Jonathan Jackson, asking the club to confirm if it intended to pursue its plans to develop a training academy in Wrightington. The club have yet to reply.

Speaking following this most recent development, the MP said: "It is simply outrageous that Wigan Athletic continue to remain silent about their training academy plans despite the chairman's reported comments that they're on hold. I believe Wrightington residents deserve to be given an answer one way or another over the clubs intentions. They have to live with the continued speculation and uncertainty about what will happen to their community.

"Given the comments from a respected BBC journalist, the club should once and for all put an end to this speculation by making a formal statement about their plans."

When the Champion contacted the club on this matter, a spokesman declined to comment.

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RN beckons for IT whiz Jamie

Report by **Henry James**

FINISHING his qualifications in computing at West Lancashire College was plain sailing for West Lancashire College student, Jamie Taubman who is now setting his sights on a career in the navy.

Jamie from Skelmersdale has been a student at the college for four years and is now coming to the end of his foundation degree in computing.

Since the age of eight Jamie has been an active member of the sea cadets. He has worked his way through the ranks and is now a staff instructor with the TS Rodney unit in Skelmersdale.

Jamie has also worked on IT systems with the sea cadets which has led to him applying for a job with the Royal Navy as a technician submariner.

A former pupil at Up Holland High School, Jamie joined West Lancashire College when he was 16. He completed the Level 2 diploma in IT and progressed on to the National Diploma Level 3 course.

The 20–year–old said: "I have really enjoyed my time at the college and have progressed through the IT courses with the help of the tutors. I've been given some great opportunities which have helped in my personal development.

"And it's not just the computing knowledge that I've built on during my time at college. My confidence and social skills have also developed to the point where I now feel comfortable talking to a range of different people, helping me progress to the role of instructor in the cadets."

Jamie will graduate from West Lancashire College next month with a foundation degree in computing.

He has been offered places at both Edge Hill University and the University of Central Lancashire to continue his studies in computing.

Jamie Taubman **Code NA**

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"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.

Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland

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Pals' grand effort for cancer charity

FRIENDS and colleagues from Aughton St Michael's CE Primary School took part in Cancer Research's Race For Life in Southport.

The group of 16 runners raised £1,060 on the 5–kilometre run in Victoria Park on Sunday, June 9.

Group leader, Amanda Ferguson–Lock said: "I'd like to say thank you to everyone for their support, whether it was financial or encouragement."

The St Michael's runners who raised more than £1,000 **Code NA**

Call for more apprenticeships

BUSINESSES across Lancashire are being urged to offer more apprenticeships after figures revealed that eleven candidates are battling it out for every vacancy.

The National Apprenticeship Service revealed there were almost 370,000 applications for apprenticeships between February and April this year but just 32,600 vacancies.

Liz Field from the Financial Skills Partnership, which approves apprenticeships and assists in regulating employer–led standards, said: "These figures show that there has been a positive reaction from young people to vocational routes into jobs.

"For sectors such as finance that haven't been seen as traditional apprenticeship–based industries, the work that has been carried out to create awareness of apprenticeships has shown progress.

"There is now an even bigger challenge to businesses in Lancashire to further embrace apprenticeships and roll them out in a way that better meets this increased demand. This means more apprenticeship places are needed and the focus should remain on quality of the apprenticeship offered by employers."

"Higher apprenticeships have been one area that has shown significant growth and they have opened many doors for more young people that have struggled to find ways into work beside traditional university routes.

"We're expecting that many more businesses will see the benefits of apprenticeships and as many firms will look to fuel the next chapter of growth, these enthusiastic young people who are bright, keen to learn and can be moulded into a company culture will be an ideal way to do this."

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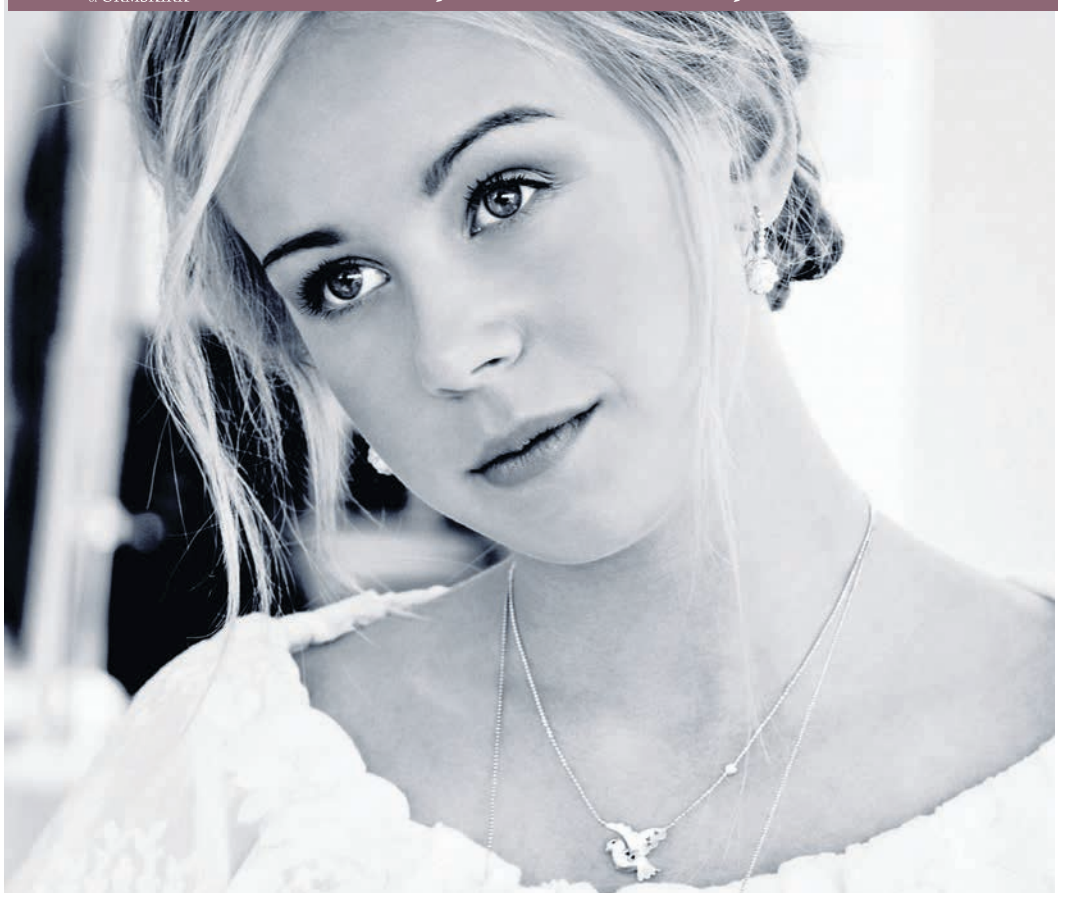

Autumn start date for building of Youth Zone

Report by **Henry James**

WEST Lancashire's Youth Zone has received formal planning permission and construction work will start on it this autumn.

The final stages of the planning process for the building were completed last week and the Skelmersdale–based Youth Zone has received £2m as part of a wider Lancashire County Council initiative to upgrade provision for young people.

The Zone will be built on land right in the centre of town in Skelmersdale, next to the library, police station and Nye Bevan Pool.

The new–build Youth Zone will open for a minimum of five nights a week and offer a wide range of activities and opportunities for young people to get together in a safe and fun environment.

Lancashire County Council's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, County Councillor Matthew Tomlinson, said: "This is excellent news for the young people of Skelmersdale and West Lancashire. Staff from the young people's service and young people themselves have put in a great deal of work to make the youth zone a reality.

"This superb new youth zone will open up top–notch facilities to young people, including a multi–purpose hall, internet café, kitchen, space for group work and private sessions, studio and performance workshop areas for arts, music and drama; and an outdoor multi–use games area.

An artist's impression of the new Skelmersdale Youth Zone Code NA

"I have every intention of continuing to involve young people once the zone is up and running to make sure that it meets their needs and expectations.

"This network of youth zones across the county will mean that resources can be targeted more effectively."

The county council has been working closely with the borough council and St Modwen, the property and regeneration specialist, to incorporate the building in the wider regeneration scheme for the town centre.

The decision will be formally noted by Lancashire County Council's Development Control Committee in July.

Bosses at the county council have said that young people in Lancashire are already starting to benefit from their pioneering use of a new model of providing youth work.

A spokesman for Lancashire County Council said: "This youth zone model creates key centres in areas of most need, while also providing a geographical spread of 'satellite' services across the rest of the district. As well as providing positive activities, the youth zones will also be a base for services providing early support to vulnerable young people.

"Youth zones across the county will be tailored to local circumstances. The first, The Zone in Nelson, is already up and running, having opened in 2011. Plans are now being developed to create a youth zone in all of Lancashire's districts."

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Trophy time for young footballers

MORE than 900 trophies were handed out when Skelmersdale Junior Football League, which has age groups ranging from under–7s to under–15s, held their presentation day at Up Holland Labour Club attended by nearly 2,000 people.

The under–7s and under–8s sections are non–competitive so youngsters in those leagues received mementoes, while in the other age groups prizes were handed out to winners and runners–up. Children who didn't win an award were given the Seldon's Participation Award.

Former Everton players, Duncan McKenzie and Mike Newell were among the special guests, along with new Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Iain Ashcroft who helped to present the trophies.

League chairman, Joe Nelson, said: "Over the season some 1,300 games were played with four kick–offs at Liverpool Road and Blaguegate playing fields each Sunday from 9.30am to 3.30pm and 15 referees employed every week.

"We lost 10 weeks because of bad weather but the council let us play on their pitches till June and we managed to complete all our fixtures. I want to thank the council for their help. A lot of other councils close their pitches at the beginning of April.

"I also want to thank the Up Holland Labour Club for hosting the presentation and finally thanks to Steve Rose for his help and the Polaris pub."

Captains of teams in the Skelmersdale Junior Football Laegue at their end–of–season awards presentation pictured with the special guests. Code1059353

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New Uniform Initiative Sets the Standard at Lathom High

An innovative free uniform initiative launched this week at Lathom High School has been welcomed by parents and carers from across the area.

Lathom has launched the free uniform pack for all Year 7 students joining the school from this September with funds released when the school secured charitable status late last year. The pack consists of a blazer and tie, complete with the schools recently re-vamped badge.

Lathom High Headteacher, Mr Tim Farr said that the initiative had been widely praised by parents, pupils and staff and was part of a wider school strategy focussed on raising standards across the board.

'We are acutely aware that times are tough for all parents, whatever the circumstances. We just wanted to ensure that all of our Year 7 students join the school on an equal footing and instil a sense of belonging whilst reinforcing our high standards as an organisation.'

For more information on the Lathom High School Uniform Programme, log onto their website **www.lathomhighschool.org**

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Council hit back at MP in row over planning

Report by **Henry James**

WEST Lancs Council bosses have hit back at claims that they are failing local residents because the planning department doesn't have enough staff to deal with enforcement.

The accusation came from Labour MP Rosie Cooper who said that spending cuts and long–term sickness had left the department with just one enforcement officer who was unable to deal with the case load.

However, a council spokesman said the planning enforcement team was now "back to full strength" and claimed that the temporary staff shortage had "no impact on the determination of planning applications."

Ms Cooper said: " In a letter to me, the Borough Planner admitted that complaints were taking longer to fully investigate and resolve."

The MP added that she had been contacted by a number of West Lancashire residents who had been in touch with the council to report planning breaches only to be told that the council can't deal with them at present.

She continued: "What is the point in West Lancashire Borough Council setting planning conditions if it doesn't have the capability to enforce them? How many more planning breaches will developers be able to get away with just because the borough council has run down yet another one of their services?

"The planning department is one of the only services run by the borough council that generates income. Failure to maintain this service will result in lost revenue for the borough council and send out the message that West Lancashire is closed for business and that it will be easier to break planning regulations and get away with it."

A council spokesman responded: "Whilst the investigation of alleged breaches of planning control is a non–statutory function, the council takes such complaints very seriously.

"When the officer went on sick leave the council created a temporary enforcement officer post. When the occupier of this post left the authority after seven months to take up another position, the post was re–advertised.

"The team was short–staffed for three months and during that time the council had to prioritise investigations as a short term measure. Now the team is back to full strength we are investigating all complaints of alleged breaches of planning control.

"Being one member of staff down in the enforcement team had no impact on the determination of planning applications. Nor did it have a detrimental impact on the fee income which in 2012/13 was significantly higher than the previous year.

"The actions of the council in appointing a temporary enforcement officer and the high percentage of planning approvals demonstrates the council's commitment to investigating alleged breaches of planning control and that West Lancashire is open for business."

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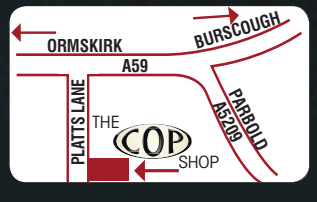

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Champion LETTERS to the Editor

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To use the Bible as an infallible law book is absurd

On the subject of God and gay marriage, I write in reply to Pastor Billy McCurrie's letter (Champion, June 12).

He quoted Leviticus 20:1 and Romans 1: 24–32 as his justification and I'd like some advice from him regarding one or two more specific laws and how best to follow them.

When I burn a bull on the altar as a sacrifice to the Lord (Lev: 1.1) the neighbours aren't too happy about the smell. How should I deal with this?

Should I like to sell my daughter into slavery, as it suggests in Exodus 21:7, what is a fair price in this day and age?

I have a neighbour who insists on working on the Sabbath, as many others do today. Exodus 35:2 clearly states she should be put to death. Am I morally obliged to do so?

And so on and so on...

Seriously though, to use the Bible as an infallible law book that needs no interpretation is clearly an absurd position to hold.

And it really matters when it prompts people to persecute their neighbours, as has been the Church's treatment of homosexuals.

It might be interesting to remember that when William Wilberforce openly campaigned against slavery, his opponents in the Houses of Parliament quoted Leviticus as justification for slaves.

I cannot recall Jesus ever condemning anyone for their sexual orientation.

He was more concerned with preaching and healing, working among the down–and–outs in society to make them feel loved and empowered.

He was always at pains to stress the love for one another that we should have.

To deny that love to any human being on the grounds of their sexuality is wrong.

It always worries me when people take parts of the Bible that suit them and conveniently blot out the ones that don't.

A minister in Skelmersdale once told me that the Bible was a tool for living, to be interpreted for the time and age in which we live and to remember that it was written more than 2,000 years ago for a primitive people in a primitive age; but to always remember what Jesus taught – 'to love one another as oneself.'

Jenny Ashcroft, Skelmersdale

Extension bid makes a mockery of planning system

The owners of Whitemoss tip site still want a massive extension and are trying to get around our previous victory by getting it approved through the National Planning Infrastructure process, which bypasses Lancashire County Council which had removed it from its draft waste plan.

This would increase landfilling to 7.5 times its current level and extend its life to around 20 years.

The National Planning Infrastructure requires the developer to run the public consultation and compile a report that goes to the Planning Inspectorate.

It is absolutely bizarre that objections need to go to the company rather than a government body.

People who live near waste sites are more at risk of ill health and Skelmersdale is downwind from the Whitemoss tip.

In order to create space for this hazardous waste, an open–cast coal mine would need to be developed.

This would involve topsoil, storing it and extracting the coal before dumping can start.

In 1977 Lancashire County Council said the site should be completed by 1995. Since then there have been eight extensions to the original planning permission.

Any further extension makes a mockery of the planning system. There is already an over–provision of hazardous waste capacity in the North West.

To fill the proposed extension, waste would need to be imported from long distances and over a very long period of time.

We cannot promote Skelmersdale by continuing landfilling hazardous waste at Whitemoss.

We really did believe all this was behind us. We will fight this every inch of the way.

Claire Pollard, Ashurst One Tenants and Residents Association

PICTURE of the week

www.champnews.com/pixonline

Brollies to the rescue

A short sharp shower did not dampen the spirits of those taking part in the annual Newburgh Fair parade around the village at the weekend.

Picture by Martyn Snape.

Code: 1059733.

It's time town had its own final resting place

After reading the article on Skelmersdale having no cemetery/crematorium (Champion, June 12) I felt I needed to write in.

I have been speaking to other people in the area and we feel that we are being ignored and forgotten.

I am in my 70s and I want to know that when I get to the end of my life I can be buried close to my family, so that in hard times they can come and visit me. Visiting the grave of a loved one can bring you comfort.

We have lots of green space, more than enough to make a graveyard. It's ridiculous we do not have one in the town.

The Pippins Lane site is a poor choice anyway, they need to create a new one.

With unemployment and low income the way it is, it is hassle and money to go to visit a loved one buried elsewhere and as we are out of the way in the area, our transport links aren't the best.

It's about time people listened to Rosie Cooper on this and sorted it out before any more families face the turmoil of loved ones being buried far away.

Mr Gibbons, Skelmersdale

EU is not the UK's best option

It was predictable to hear from that ardent EU cheer–leader, Chris Davies, Lib–Dem MEP, banging on about how the EU is good for us.

The facts are quite different.

There are 27 member states in the EU and more than 156 countries who are not. And the single market is actually shrinking while the rest of the world is growing.

As a result, we now export more of our goods outside the EU, which is good for jobs as well as our balance sheet.

And if it were not for the open borders policy we would have a greater number of employment for our own nationals.

Our membership costs the UK taxpayer over £53million every day, plus £billions more in regulations and tax costs, money that should be spent to the benefit of Britain and the British people and not squandered on an undemocratic institution (they have not had their books signed off in 18 years).

There is a much bigger world outside the inward–looking EU offering greater opportunities and prosperity, which is what Britain should be part of.

Phillip Griffiths, UKIP North West

Skem could be UK's skateboarding hub

I was pleased to be informed about the West Lancs Youth Zone project which is long overdue and trust the council will endorse and agree to move on it quickly.

Would it be possible to incorporate a skateboard park or an extra bit to permit some skateboarding?

Have you noticed the skatebarders trying their best at the side of the Concourse, very difficult.

I believe skateboarding could become an Olympic sport. The skill required is considerable and the young have the body dexterity to do it well.

Has anybody noticed Southport's skateboard park/arena and, of course, the skateboarders? Quite mind–blowing.

I suppose it's not beyond the realm of possibility for Skelmersdale to become the UK's skateboarding capital, given an appropriate level of council support.

Graham Walker, Up Holland

Write to the Editor at Clare House, 166 Lord Street, Southport PR9 0QA
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MP seeks answers for family of terror raid victim

Rosie Cooper calls for more information from Foreign Office

By **Henry James**

FIVE months after the terrorist attack on the In Amenas gas plant in Algeria in January grieving families still have too many unanswered questions.

That's the view of West Lancashire MP Rosie Cooper who used a parliamentary debate last Wednesday (June 12) to call on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to provide more information and start to provide answers to explain how and why their loved ones died in the incident.

Ms Cooper spoke about the case of Garry Barlow who was one of six British nationals killed during the attack. Members of Garry's family live in West Lancashire.

During the debate Ms Cooper challenged Foreign Office Minister, Mark Simmonds to answer questions in four main areas – iformation on the motivation and reasons for the attack; whether the safety of foreign workers had been given enough priority by their employers advising them it was safe to travel to Algeria; the government's response during and after the attack; and the effectiveness of the investigation.

Speaking ahead of the debate, The West Lancs MP said: "If we strip away all the corporate interests, the security interests, the ideological battles and the national interests at the heart of the In Amenas attack and this debate are families who have lost their loved ones in the most horrific and tragic circumstances.

"I've called this debate to start getting some answers for Garry Barlow's family. We are five months on yet there are still too many unanswered questions. They also feel let down by the government and the companies employing British workers at the plant.

"This family is grieving and it is only made worse by not knowing what happened to Garry or why the attack happened at all.

"When you have looked into the eyes of a mother who has lost a son you begin to understand what true heartbreak is. For me the family deserve more dignity and respect in their loss."

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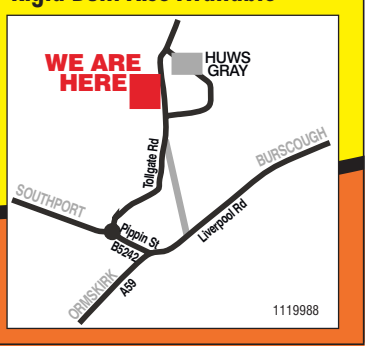

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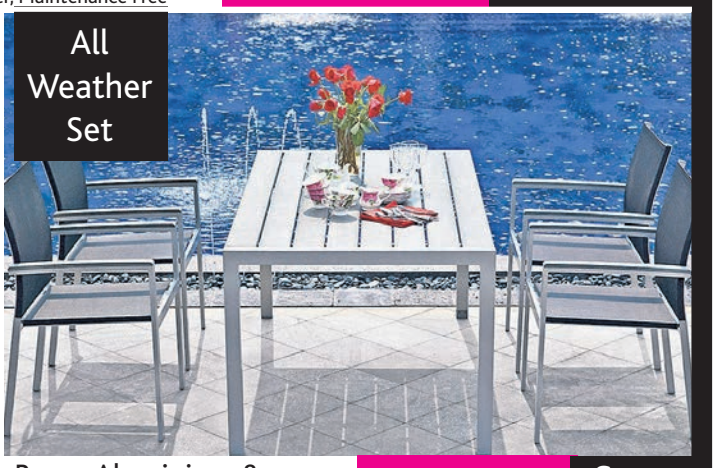

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New programme aims to reduce risk of diabetes

Report by **Henry James**

NHS leaders in West Lancashire are encouraging people to understand their own risk of developing diabetes, by using the latest programme, Walking Away from Diabetes.

The new education programme, delivered by Skelmersdale Community Food Initiative (SCFI), is aimed at people who are at increased risk of developing diabetes and is especially suited for people whose blood sugar levels are starting to rise above normal, but are not yet at the level to make a diagnosis of diabetes.

To assess the level of risk, individuals can simply self–assess or be assessed at their local GP practice.

The new programme offers three–hour interactive courses to help people think about making small changes to manage the risk of diabetes, find out more about their risk, diabetes and local support, as well as meeting other people in the local community.

Dr Bapi Biswas, GP executive lead at NHS West Lancashire CCG, explains: "The key point to understand here is about the importance of catching that potential risk early. This programme has demonstrated a 30 to 60% reduction in the risk of progression to type 2 diabetes in high–risk individuals.

"Not only is diabetes a significant disruption to individuals' health and lifestyle, it can also reduce life expectancy by 10 to 20 years.

"At the moment there are about 5,220 people in West Lancashire with diabetes but many more remain undiagnosed and unaware that they are at risk. We'd like to encourage anyone aware of this programme to either contact their GP to have an assessment carried out or self–assess directly."

More details are avaliable from Walking Away from Diabetes directly at 01695 720 555 or scfi.walkingaway@nhs.net.

Anyone who has already been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and would like more information can contact the diabetes centre directly on 01695 588177.

Rugby club launches first beer festival

ORMSKIRK Rugby Club will be launching its first Beer Festival at the weekend.

The event, sponsored by Burscough Brewery and supported by Love Ormskirk, kicks offs at the club in Green Lane at 10am on Saturday, June 22 to coincide with the first Test match between the British Lions and Australia. Visitors can enjoy a choice of 12 guest ales while watching the action live from Brisbane.

During the afternoon there will be a fancy–dress tag rugby 7s competition with eight teams taking part.

Refreshments will be available throughout the day and there will be live music in the evening.

For more details go to www.ormskirkrugby.com

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I can live, and even enjoy life, without the internet

I HAVE just returned from my latest holiday cruise aboard my boat, 'Manxman', in which she completed just over 400 miles through the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads.

The whole holiday went extremely well. A highlight was of course a visit to the chippy in the village of Reedham – I mentioned it after my November hols if you remember, saying that it was possibly the best such emporium I have ever had the pleasure of eating fish and chips from.

And guess what? The Reedham chippy now sports a framed copy of the 'Dog' article proudly on its wall! I really did feel honoured.

But this brings me to the idea of what the necessities of life really are for me – and for others too.

Researchers have compiled a list of what are apparently the top 20 things they could not do without. Boats and fish and chips do not figure, but the iPhone and the car do – prominently.

Apparently 33% of folk claim they would be bereft without smartphones – and, worryingly, most people think any material item is replaceable.

My boat isn't for a start. Neither was my first car or the tiny model aircraft talisman I lost.

Now I have no beef with people who believe a 'toy phone' somehow adds to their personal happiness.

Whatever turns you on.

And I am not looking for converts to my 1950s–style existence without these expensive gadgets.

But I am living proof that you still CAN get by in this modern world without them.

My experience has been that just so long as you don't go round boasting that you are computer illiterate and have no idea why broadband is so vital to the average household that my poor, old–fangled TV set has continually to be readjusted to cater for their need, they can't guess that I am any different from them.

Unbelievable though it must seem to the majority of people, I can and do get by without recourse to the world wide web.

I manage to survive, get about and be understood.

Oh, and still miraculously manage often to enjoy myself into the bargain.

The only fly in my particular ointment at the moment is email.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to get anyone to use the now outmoded phone – and the Royal Mail has effectively priced itself out of the personal communications market.

So what I need (regretfully but true) is a means of sending and receiving email without the whole paraphernalia of computers, iPhones or tablets (which I guess are some kind of mobile computer).

Any suggestions gratefully received.

I feel almost guilty about this – but in a way this is how I think things should be.

Just as I have accepted the idea of using a laptop and memory stick to replace the old typewriter, I can, through necessity, accept e–mails as a necessary fact of life.

Still, I suppose watching folk who should know better wandering down a street tapping away at their iPhones to discover something I obviously should know but never will and bumping into other seekers after truth enhances my day no end – so that's alright then.

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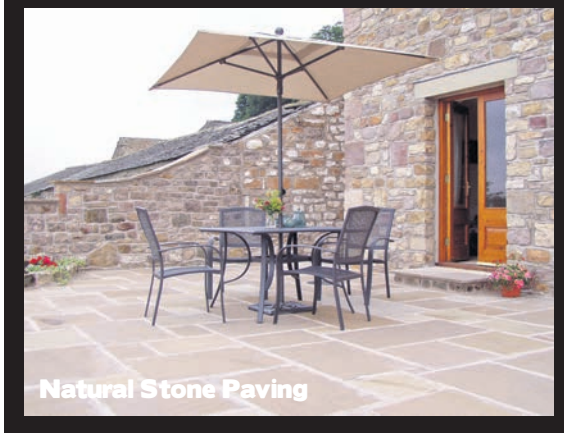
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Councilors to consider playing fields 'transfer' plan

Report by **Henry James**

COUNCILLORS were last night (Tuesday, June 18) due to consider a proposal to transfer the Abbey Lane playing fields in Burscough to a community sports club at a cabinet meeting of the borough council.

The proposed move is part of an opportunity to attract external grant funding to support drainage improvements works to the site.

It has been recommended that the assistant director of community services and the assistant director of housing, regeneration and estates be authorised to grant a long–term lease at a peppercorn rent to Burscough Juniors Football Club for the changing room and pitches located at Abbey Lane playing fields. Also that authorisation be granted to identify and engage a contractor to carry out the drainage works on the site.

Abbey Lane playing fields site, also known as the Thomas Galvin Sports Ground, contains six adult football pitches and two cricket pitches. Building changing accommodation consists of 12 team changing rooms, separate changing for officials, a community/training room, first aid room and a small kitchen area.

Burscough Juniors FC was formed in 2002 following the joining together of Burscough FC and Burscough Dynamos and provide football for boys and girls from age six onwards. Burscough Juniors has since separated from Burscough FC and now operates independently from the senior club.

The borough council has arrangements with a number of sports clubs across the borough who are engaged in long–term lease/partnership arrangements for council–owned facilities.

Security

Council officers have met with club officials, Burscough Parish Council, Liverpool FA and officers from the Football Foundation to discuss lease and investment options for the Abbey Lane Site.

The club require security of tenure of at least 25 years in order to secure the Football Foundation grant funding. The club have asked for a lease of a minimum period of 25 years to secure the grant but would welcome a longer term.

In a report for the meeting David Tilleray, the assistant director of community services at the borough council, said: "That Burscough Juniors Football Club provides a valuable community and recreational service and the council should support their development proposals by providing the security of a dedicated site for the club to develop."

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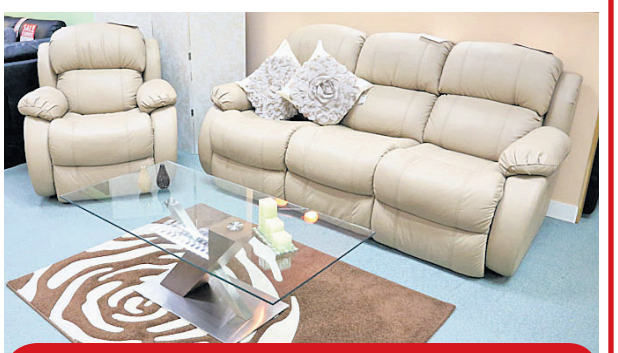

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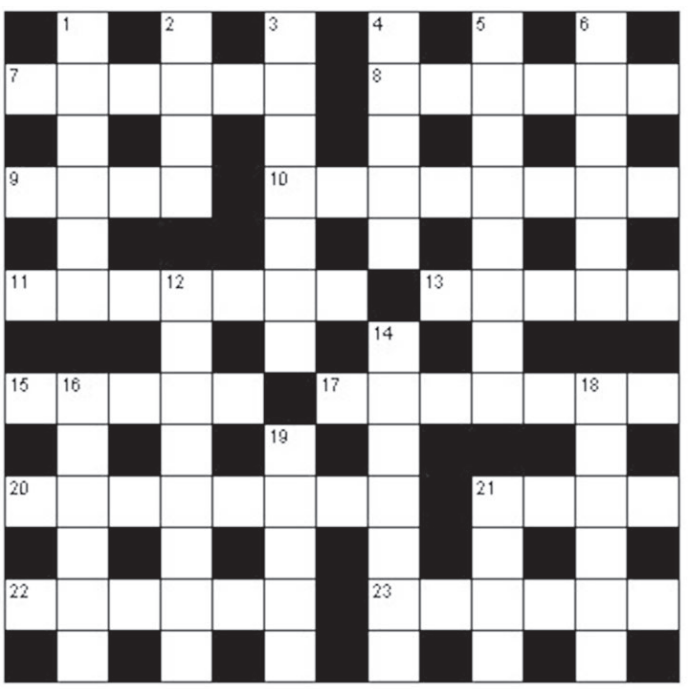

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

Across: 1. Hubble, 4. Athena, 9. Art Deco, 10. Obese, 11. Ninja, 12. Melling, 13. Mickey Mouse, 18. Groucho, 20. Noble, 22. Naomi, 23. Neology, 24. Afeard, 25. Klaxon

Down: 1. Hyaena, 2. Baton, 3. Lee Mack, 5. Troll, 6. Eyelids, 7. Avenge, 8. Formby Point, 14. Iron ore, 15. Own goal, 16. Uganda, 17. Kenyan, 19. Crier, 21. Bronx

ACROSS

7. Natural light display such as the Northern Lights (6)
8. Popular dance of Cuban origin (3-3)
9. Internet trend (4)
10. Lunar phase larger than a crescent (4-4)
11. American meat, popular as wings (7)
13. To append or attach (5)
15. The main character in childhood classic Watership Down (5)
17. Able to be maintained - he lost his job because his position was no longer... (7)
20. Phenomenon causes involuntary twitching and laughter (8)
21. Traditional favourite biscuit for toddlers (4)
22. Annoyingly insensitive or slow to understand (6)
23. Biological acid blamed for sore muscles or cramps (6)

DOWN

1. What the 'B' stands for in FBI (6)
2. Humorous exchange (4)
3. Sefton parish, home to Frank Hornby (7)
4. Bacteria lives in your intestines (1.4)
5. Island south of Australia, home to a fictional devil (8)
6. Seat for royalty (6)
12. Informal slang for a heightened emotional state (5-3)
14. Chip-stealing bird popular in Southport (7)
16. Used to describe hands on hips or open legs (6)
18. Fictional dog created by Eric Knight (6)
19. Rupert Murdoch owned newspaper (not quite as good as the Champion) The... (5)
21. Symbol of life and fertility traditionally thrown at weddings (4)

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Drama group honour stalwart Michael

Report by **Henry James**

A STALWART of the Ormskirk Pleasure Folk has been awarded life membership of the amateur dramatic and musical society.

Michael Chambers was presented with his recognition by Pleasure Folk chairperson, Liz Wainwright.

His family connections with the group go back to its inception more than 40 years ago as he is the son of Julie Chambers and grandson of Esther and Johnnny Wilson, founder members.

While Michael's own first experience of the society came when, as a young lad, he went along with his nan, mum and sister and took small parts in various pantos – whether he liked it or not!

Life member, Jim Briscoe, who nominated Michael for membership of the exclusive club, said: "He is a continued link with the Wilson/Chambers family, who not only helped found this wonderful society, but who have helped it in so many ways over the years. Today, Michael is the only family member 'still standing' and while that might not be a good enough reason to consider him for life membership, longevity isn't his only outstanding quality.

Michael receives his life membership
Code NA

"Far from just 'being around', members really do see Michael as a vital cog in the Pleasure Folk machinery that puts all our shows on stage. He is there during rehearsals finding out first–hand what needs to be done, asking questions relating to problems and, not only seeking out the problems, but coming up with great ideas and solutions."

Lost toy plea becomes a Facebook phenomenon

WHEN a nursery's 'resident' stuffed toy was lost during a trip to the Isle of Man an appeal for its return via Facebook saw more than 850 users of the social network site respond.

Lynsey Blane, owner of Little Learners nursery in Black–A–Moor Lane, Ormskirk, explained that Holiday Bear – which is actually an elephant! – was lost by one of the children during a half–term visit to the world–famous TT races on the island.

The toy was given its unusual moniker because children take turns to take it on holiday but it is always returned to the nursery – until now.

Lynsey said: "I decided to put a status with a picture of Holiday Bear on our Facebook page and in a very short time we had 850 'shares.'

"A lady from Ormskirk found us a similar bear on the roadside while out in her car. And we were also contacted via Facebook by a lady on the Isle of Man who said she is going out to look for him and will ask if anyone has seen him.

"We also linked up with a man whose nursery on the island is going to become our 'pen friend nursery.'

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9.30am - 11.30am

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Burscough Health Walks
Meeting Point: **Richmond Park** *(Bowling Pavilion),* Off Junction Lane, Burscough L40 2XY
Day & Time: Tuesdays, 10:00am – 11:00am

Ormskirk Health Walks
Main Meeting Point: **Coronation Park** *(Bowling Pavillion),* Ormskirk L39 3BY
Day & Time: Wednesdays, 1:00pm – 2:00pm

- Walks are suitable for beginners and those returning to exercise
- Wear suitable clothing and footwear for all weathers
- All new walkers must arrive 10-15mins before the walk commences.

Walks may be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

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Bishop officiates at youngsters' big day

PUPILS at Bickerstaffe CE primary school have taken their first communion in a service conducted by the Bishop of Warrington, the Rt. Rev. Richard Blackburn.

During his visit to the West Lancashire school the bishop also went round the classrooms and held a question and answer session with pupils.

Youngsters Jessica Ball, Faith Currie, Thomas Ralfs, and Reuben Warwick then took their first communion.

• RIGHT: Bishop of Warrington, Rt. Rev. Richard Blackburn (left) with some of the first communicants and headteacher Jeanne Hall and Rev. Andrew Housely from the school. Code1059113

Reminder to artists

Report by **Henry James**

ARTISTS are reminded that there is still time to enter this year's West Lancashire Open Exhibition.

The show, in its 12th year, celebrates the creative talents of students, amateurs and professional artists. It will be held at the borough council's Chapel Gallery in Ormskirk from Saturday, July 20 to Wednesday, September 11.

You can pick up an entry form by contacting Chapel Gallery on 01695 571328, or email chapel.gallery@westlancs.gov.uk.

All areas of artistic media are welcome, including paintings, drawings, printmaking, photography, sculpture, other three–dimensional work and textiles. Anyone over 18 years of age can enter and those selected then exhibit collectively in the main exhibition space at the gallery.

Applicants can submit two original pieces of artwork to be viewed by the selection panel. Submissions will be accepted on Friday, July 5 and Saturday, July 6 from 10am to 4.30pm. First prize is £800, second will receive £400 and £200 for third.

Visitors to the gallery will also be able to choose the winner of the People's Prize, given to the most popular work on display at the end of the exhibition. The winner receives the opportunity to exhibit at the gallery and a £150 exhibition fee.

Large scale two–dimensional and three–dimensional works must be submitted by photograph only by Friday, June 28. They should also include a completed entry form and a first class stamp. See the application form for details.

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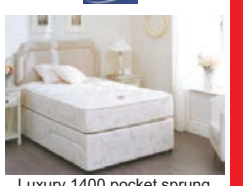

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Supreme quality 1500 handside stitched luxury mattress upholstered with sumptuous natural fillings complete with 2 drawer base.

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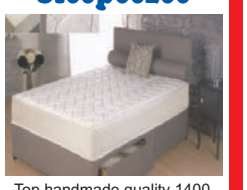
Sleepeezee



Top handmade quality 1400 pocket sprung backcare firm handmade mattress upholstered with luxury wool and silk natural fillings complete with 2 drawer base.

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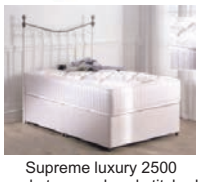

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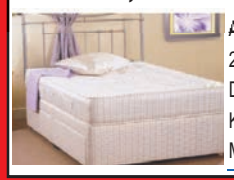

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Slumberland

Medium/firm 1200 pocket sprung memory foam mattress complete with 2 drawer base

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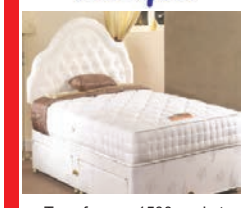

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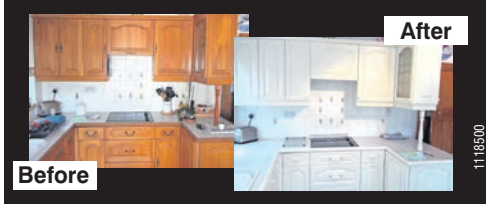

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College footy squad are queens of county

THE cup–winning squad from Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College with manager, Kirstie Baines and mascot. Code1059141

TALENTED soccer lasses from Our Lady Queen of Peace College in Skelmersdale have lifted the Girls Under–16s Lancashire Cup.

In the final at JMO Sports Park at Blaguegate they defeated local rivals Burscough Priory 4–1 with goals from Morgan Fairhurst, Leah Duffey, Mayumi Gillam and Laura Butler.

Earlier they had defeated last year's winners, St Wilfred's 2–1 in the semi–final and knocked out Ormskirk School in the last eight.

The squad of Year 10 and 11 students included Sophie Grace, Emma Valentine, Hannah Stewart, Lois Harnick, Nicole McCormick, Grace Vella (captain), Mayumi Gillam, Abigail Lynott, Morgan Fairhurst, Leah Duffey, Laura Butler, Evelina Siaunyte, Amber Birchall and Ceri Smith.

Team manager, Kirstie Baines from Our Lady Queen of Peace said: "The girls finished an incredible season by being crowned Lancashire under–16s champions. They showed tremendous commitment and determination throughout the season and fully deserved their success. This is the first time a girls side from Our Lady's Queen of Peace have won the under–16s Lancashire Cup and it follows their victory in the Lancashire Cup in Year 9."

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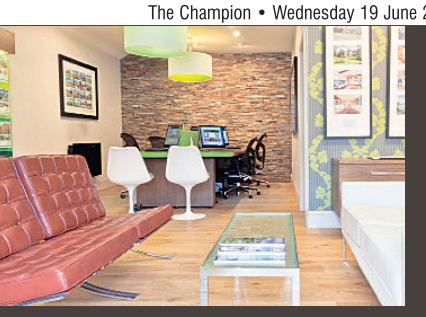

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- Individually Designed House
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- Private Location
- 2 Reception Rooms & Sunroom
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- True Bungalow
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- Double Garage
- Two Reception Rooms
- Splendid Conservatory
- Impressive Dining Kitchen
- Private Gardens
- 1220 SQ.FT EPC D

LIVERPOOL ROAD, **BURSCOUGH** £330,000

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- Large mature garden plot
- Three storey design
- Close to village centre
- Three large reception rooms
- Impressive detached garage
- Four-piece family bathroom
- 1980 SQ.FT EPC D

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- Built In The 1880's
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NEW

GLENSIDE, **WRIGHTINGTON** £239,950

A spacious family home in popular location

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- Could be converted into 4 bedrooms
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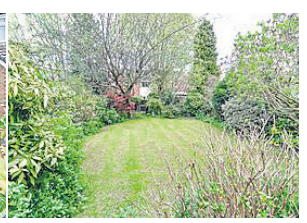

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Heritage group aim to bring history to life

By **Danielle Thompson**

BURSCOUGH Heritage Group will be bringing the history of the local area to life over the weekend.

Free entertainment at Burscough Wharf will include morris dancing, clog dancing, ukulele and accordion playing, heritage displays and crafts for families to try, along with traditional and modern boats brightening the canalside.

Colin Wareing from the Burscough Heritage group said: "This week is Burscough Heritage week and local primary school pupils are being entertained and educated about the history and heritage of Burscough and the Leeds and Liverpool Canal by members of the Burscough Heritage group who have organised the week based around Burscough Wharf."

The heritage weekend starts at 10.30am until the early evening on Saturday, June 22 and Sunday, June 23 at Burscough Wharf.

For more information contact Colin on 07931 356204.

Gill Draper from Burscough Heritage Group with Emily Strype from St John's Catholic Primary School dressed as a Victorian barge woman and canal girl.

Barcelona date for Edge Hill performance lecturer

Report by **Henry James**

RESEARCH by an Edge Hill University lecturer on the ageing drag queen will be unveiled at a conference in Barcelona in July.

Senior lecturer in performance, Mark Edward has been asked to present his latest practice as research investigation on the private lives of drag queens at the International Federation for Theatre Research Conference.

Mark explores what happens behind the glitz and glamour as drag performers get older and become more vulnerable.

He explained: "It is an issue I feel very strongly about. There is a lot of work around youth in performance but very little about the ageing performer, especially drag queens.

"I have a lot of friends in this business who seem to reassess life choices as they get older.

"My research explores the social, political and cultural issues into ageing in non–heterosexual contexts and personal relationships."

His work, 'Council House Movie Star', illustrates this. It is a performance showing the weird and wonderful characteristics of the everyday life of Gale Force, an ageing drag queen and failed child star of Omo washing powder in her run–down council house.

Mark added: "I want people to see the private life of Gale Force, to get a glimpse of what it's like behind closed doors, away from the bright lights, and to have a better understanding of the issues facing ageing, gay performers.

Mark Edward as Gale Force Code NA

"Gale's working–class roots expose a real vulnerability which I want to explore.

"I was a drag queen myself in the 1980s and although I'm out of the game I have seen a lot of changes. The night time economy has changed because of the new pub culture and many UK drag queens have sought work abroad.

"For those who try to find employment in different professions they find their skills aren't up to date so they return to their art form. Personal relationships crumble because of the unsociable hours they work.

Precarious

"Drag queens have a precarious relationship within contemporary gay culture."

Mark, who has recently carried out extensive research on ageing performers, has himself been at the receiving end of negative comments. "I'm getting older myself and in a way my research is a narrative about myself.

"Ageing performers are on the receiving end of comments about being past it, lacking stamina, plus there are visible signs of ageing you have to contend with.

"There is a lot of discrimination and sustaining a performance career is very challenging once you hit 35. I argue that older performers have just as much to offer as the younger generation. They can bring something different to the stage."

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Ormskirk Theatre Company to perform on top floor of Disraeli's

Report by
Henry James

BRUSH up your Shakespeare, the song says but the members of the Ormskirk Theatre Company have been brushing up more than Shakespeare recently.

They have been hard at work decorating the top floor of Disraeli's in Church Street, Ormskirk – the site of their new performance space.

A brand new studio theatre will replace the Lollipop Lounge. It has fresh paint, new curtains, sound and lighting.

Pat Baker from Ormskirk Theatre Company said: "Many 'thanks' are due to Sue, the manager of Disraeli's for all her help and support while OTC have been busy all hours of the day and night to get the place ready for their opening performance."

Upstairs at Disraeli's opens its doors on July 3, when the new 60 seat studio theatre will stage The Anastasia File, a drama being staged over four nights by the Company.

The play is set to the backdrop of the aftermath of the Russian Revolution: When Tsar Nicholas and the Imperial family are massacred in 1917, rumours abound that one member of the family survived the slaughter. When a young girl is rescued from a canal in Berlin three years later, her actions arouse suspicion. Can it really be that the Princess Anastasia survived? The play, based on a true story, is the first of many Ormskirk Theatre Company are planning to stage at Upstairs at Disraeli's. There will be a new production at the beginning of each month.

Cast photo for The Anastasia File

Their schedule for the latter half of 2013 has just been announced. In addition to The Anastasia File, the company are also planning Heaven, Earth and a Horse of Wood (a comedy based around the Trojan Horse legend) and several interactive murder mystery evenings. And to cap it all, they are still planning to stage Remember, a concert to commemorate Remembrance Day in November (last year's concert was nominated Best Concert in the North West of England) and a traditional panto with an Ormskirk twist, Snow White and the Seven Super Heroes! at Ormskirk Civic Hall.

Tickets for The Anastasia File are on sale now at Brighouse Wolff, Aughton Street; at Disraeli's, in Church Street; and online at www.ormskirktheatrecompany.co.uk

Players to mark the Queen's coronation

Report by **Ron Ellis**

MEMBERS of the Hoghton Players have been busy over the last few months rehearsing for their forthcoming concert in honour of the Queen's diamond anniversary of her coronation. This is particularly relevant for the Society as the Hoghton Players is, like the Queen, now entering its 61st year.

This special anniversary concert marks a departure for the Hoghton Players from its usual Gilbert and Sullivan repertoire. Instead, the Society will be performing numbers from English operettas, such as The Arcadians and Flora Dora. While these light operas are rarely heard these days, they include some very fine melodies that are sure to have audiences humming as they leave. Songs such as Arcady is Ever Young, All Down Piccadilly and Back your Fancy were real hits in their day.

The second half of the concert will focus on Edward German's ever popular Merrie England. This is still performed by operatic societies today and given that it is set during the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth, the Society thought it would form a fitting tribute to our second Queen Elizabeth, in this very special year. Stirring numbers such as The Yeomen of England and Long Live Elizabeth are sure to resonate as much today as they did when they were first written.

The concert is conducted by Ian Dunning and John Hilton is narrator and compere for the evening. The Hoghton Players has a well–deserved reputation for the quality of its choral singing, so audiences are promised an extremely enjoyable and entertaining evening.

This Evening of Light Opera will be performed in Holy Trinity Church Hall, Hoghton Street, Southport on Saturday, June 29, beginning at 7.30pm. For more information call 01772 815508.

West End show Ghost The Musical coming to Liverpool next year

THE smash hit West End show Ghost the Musical, based on the Academy Award winning film, is coming to the Liverpool Empire in February 2014.

GHOST the Musical has been seen by over 500,000 people and has been nominated for five Olivier Awards and three Tony Awards.

Adapted from the Oscar winning movie that captured the hearts and imaginations of a generation back in the 90s, Ghost the Musical is a timeless fantasy about the power of love. Sam is trapped as a ghost between this world and the next trying to communicate with girlfriend Molly through a phoney psychic in the hope of saving her from his murderer. Ghost the Musical is a rollercoaster ride of romance and comedy with staging, which producers are calling 'dazzling and state–of–the–art'.

Oscar winning Bruce Joel Rubin adapted his original screenplay for the stage production. Rubin won an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay for the movie, which starred Patrick Swayze, Demi Moore, Tony Goldwyn and Whoopi Goldberg.

The show stars Stewart Clarke as Sam Wheat, Rebecca Trehearn as Molly Jensen and Wendy Mae Brown as Oda Mae Brown.

Stewart Clarke's stage credits include Loserville at the Garrick Theatre, Sweeney Todd at the Rose Theatre, Songs For a New World at the Bridewell Theatre and Parade at the Lowry. Stewart's screen credits include the feature film Easy Virtue.

GHOST the Musical is directed by the Tony award winning Matthew Warchus (Matilda, Art) and has music and lyrics by Grammy award winning Dave Stewart (Eurythmics) and Glen Ballard and features the iconic song Unchained Melody.

Dave Stewart is recognised as one of the most respected and accomplished talents in the music industry today. Stewart's career spans more than 25 years and more than 100 million album sales.

Tickets are on general sale from Wednesday, June 19.

editorial@champnews.com

Gardens open as part of National Garden Scheme

PEOPLE are invited to follow the National Garden Scheme yellow signs to Barrow Nook Lane, Bickerstaffe this Saturday (June 22) and Sunday (June 23) from 1pm–5pm.

Three stunning gardens are being open to the public to raise funds for charities supported by the National Garden Scheme, which include Macmillan Nurses, Marie Curie and many others such as this year's guest charity which is Parkinson's UK.

The gardens are: Barrow Nook Farm a peaceful country garden filled with roses and perennials; 18 Barrow Nook Lane a small diverse garden with herbaceous borders and raised vegetable beds; 26 Barrow Nook Lane, a low maintenance bachelor pad which is featured in next week's Amateur Gardener Magazine.

Cream Teas are available and combined entry fee is £3.50 per adult. Children go free.

Tell us what you think!
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Kids Games & Activities
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Ferret Racing
Bouncy Castle & Slide
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All profits raised will go directly to Woodlands Animal Sanctuary for running costs. All events and attractions are subject to change before or on the event day.
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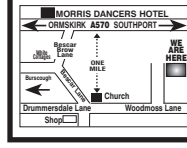

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NEXT Mixed bag of really nice boys excellent condition clothing some never worn, jeans, jumpers, t shirts all good make Nike, Addidas etc.age 11/13 £20.00 0151 531 6093

NEXT Brown winter/school coat, hood, never worn cost £32.00 new from next., age 11/12 . £15.00 0151 531 6093

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RED CONVERSE HIGHTOP unisex SIZE 5 uk, red high–top All–Star ConverseBrilliant condition, hardly worn (Rather bigger fitting, more like 5.5UK) £15 o.n.o. 01704 563455

ROCHA JOHNROCHA JEANS New 5 prs denim jeans sz 12 w'drobe clearout £7 pair bargain no texts £7 07806727402

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TRAILER needs some work to tidy it up hence price £25 01704 214210

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DINING ROOM SUITE Oval table with 6 chairs ex–Stokers £100.00 01695573598

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WINE racks and 6 demi jons £20 07816502325

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3 SEATER CHOC BROWN SUEDE COUCH Chrome feet. Good condition. Buyer to collect £100.00 o.n.o. 07890457603

3 SEATER COUCH Brown suede, good condition, buyer collect. £100 o.n.o. 07890457603

3 SEATER SOFA cream fabric with 3 matching cushions and large footstool can be reversed to a stripe design £40 07849969950

4 SPOTLIGHT CEILING bar light adjustable spotlights white finish V. G. C. May deliver £10 o.n.o. 01515263851

BEKO FRIDGE FREEZER in silver 1800mm high, fully working and very clean inside, front some marks but sides lots of dints £95. 07973 886662

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BRASS JAM POT Very old heavy brass jam pot, Needs refurbishing £5.00 o.n.o. 07977344241

HOUSE AND HOME

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CREAM ARM CHAIR Good condition with removable covers £25 o.n.o. 07881887799

CURTAINS Lovely brown, cream, green stripe lined curtains, excellent condition, 90' by 72'. £45.00 0151 526 4046

CURTAINS Four each 83.5 (+ 5.5 ins hem) inches long x 53 wide. Partly lined, multi–coloured £40 o.n.o. 01704 574011

DESK PEDESTALS X 2 birch effect, to fit under a desk (not included). one with 3 drawers and one with 1 drawer for CDs etc. Excellent condition. Please call after 6pm £30 o.n.o. 07968115565

DINING ROOM CHAIRS 6 dark brown faux leather seat and back dining room chairs dark brown. £80 01515311574

DINNING TABLE Large oval high gloss inlaid table with double pedastal and 2 pink carver chairs excellent condition £75 o.n.o. 01704 896679

DISPLAY CABINET Mahogany display cabinet. Excellent condition. 1m wide x 1.8m high x 0.4m deep. Mirrored back, glass shelves & lights. Buyer must collect £95 01695 575875

DISPLAY CABINET Rosewood display cabinet/sideboard, total ht 7ft,47ins wide x 18ins deep, three cuboards, glass shelves, illuminated, good condition, buyer collects £85 o.n.o. 01704533218

DOUBLE BED FRAME Modern gunmetal grey frame (metal) wooden slatted base, excellent condition. Call after 6pm £25 o.n.o. 07968115565

DOUBLE BED HEADBOARD Standard size, highly polished solid wood, dark rosewood style, very good condition, buyer collects. £11 o.n.o. 01704533218

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HARRY POTTER light shade, uplighter style.Blue with Harry on his broom and school emblem. £4 01704822335

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LARGE MIRROR light wood framed mirror new condition from ikea £10 07849969950

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M&S RATTAN SOFA Brandnew 2 str neutral color reverse cushions safe fireregs solidwood frame cost £600 +2 cane tables no texts £210 o.n.o. 07806727402

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HOUSE AND HOME

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SEWING MACHINE Jones Electric sewing machine threadlite H2 good condition £45 o.n.o. Tel 01704578723

SEWING MACHINE TABLE By Singer fold over leaf top Mahogany colour in good condition. Formby area £25. 01704 877559

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SMALL SOFA Two–seater sofa, pale peach, plain embossed. All upholstery is removable and machine washable. Excellent condition, house move forces sale. £40.00 o.n.o. 07977344241

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TV STAND Black glass TV/DVD stand for 32' TV £10 07798673126

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PONDI POND VAC only used a couple of times. in box not needed now.cost £120 £60 o.n.o. 07887375998

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KYHAM WINDBREAK Superb quality Khyam windbreak with guy lines for stability. £15 each. 07843778075

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ONTARIO 260 AWNING brand new Ontario 260 porch awning all new. Can open out into a canopy with poles supplied. Blue in colour call after 4pm £90.00 o.n.o. 07719180110

PICNIC TABLES 2 x Picnic tables. Fold up style with seating. Brand new never used. £15 each. 07843778075

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SLEEPING BAG Hi–gear 400, mummy style sleeping bag for adult, good conditon £10 01704 876855

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POGO STICK childs pogo stick in box £10.00 o.n.o. 01704551108

POGO STICK SILVER aluminium excellent condition May deliver £15 o.n.o. 01515263851

PUPPET THEATRE Wooden 1.5m ht, can be put down in carry case for storage. 2 sets of puppets Royal Family and Punch and Judy £25 01704822335

SCOOTER SILVER ALLUMINIUM folds down 2 wheels suit age 6 upwards excellent condition may deliver £20 o.n.o. 01515263851

STAR WARS Super Pinball Kid's 3+Game. As New. Formby Area. £7.00 01704 876031

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MISC

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EAZY BED DOUBLE Brand new eazy bed as seen on tv inflates and deflates at the push of a button and folds back into case brilliant for guests or caravanning call after 4 pm £140.00 o.n.o. 07719180110

FOOT SPA morphy richards new condition £5 07849969950

FUR COAT FUN FUR PER UNA SIZE 14 LIGHT brown full length in great condition can deliver locally £30 07503707818

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MODERN DYSON DC14 upright bagless vacuum cleaner, white and silver with tools and long reach handle £65 07752362843

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PADDINGTON BEAR BY RAINBOW 20CM soft and cuddly with hat/duffle coat can deliver locally £20 07503707818

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PETS

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We are looking for DEDICATED CARE WORKERS...
WarrenCare are currently recruiting community based **Care Workers** to work within the Formby/Aintree/Maghull/Crosby areas.
Full-time and part-time available. **Must be a driver with access to a vehicle**

For more information on this rewarding role please contact HR on: **0151 932 2000**
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WarrenCare are currently recruiting community based **Support Workers** to work with children and adults with learning/physical disabilities and mental health problems, within the Sefton area.
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PUBLIC NOTICES

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(RUFF LANE, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2013

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle or cycle from proceeding over that length of Ruff Lane, Ormskirk, from its junction with St Helens Road to its junction with Vicarage Lane, Ormskirk, in the Borough of West Lancashire.

An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via: -

Ruff Lane-Knowsley Road-St Helens Road-Scarth Hill Lane- Ruff Lane and vice versa.

The closure will be in 3 parts access will be maintained whenever and wherever possible.

The Police, Fire and Ambulance Services have been informed.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow Electricity North West to carry out works.

The prohibition will be operative from 0700 hours on Wednesday 19 June 2013 until 1800 hours on Friday 9th August 2013, or until completion of the works if earlier.

Paul Dunne
Public Realm Manager Preston and South Ribble
Lancashire Highway Services, Lancashire County Council, 0845 053 0011 [Ref: HEM/226/838/SH]

www.lancashire.gov.uk — Lancashire County Council

1120104

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010 - Article 13
APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Application No: 2013/0501/FUL Erection of barn for the use as a hay store and cattle pen. Retrospective permission for concrete hardstanding to the front of the stable block at Land At Junction With New Lane Pace, Gorsey Lane, Banks.
Application No: 2013/0568/ARM Reserved Matters - Erection of 106 dwellings at Land On The East Side Of Guinea Hall Lane And North Of Greaves Hall Avenue, Banks.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2013/0570/OUT Outline - Erection of 5 no. detached dwellings and garages (including details of access and layout) at Land To The East Of Oaklands Avenue, Tarleton.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2013/0587/ARM Approval of Reserved Matters - Partial replan to construct 37 dwellings; Plot substitution to Plots 30 to 64 with an additional 2 dwellings Plots 65/66 together with associated works at Land To The Rear Of 69 To 101, Chequer Lane, UpHolland.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
The proposed development affects a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 applies.
Application No: 2013/0598/ARM Approval of Reserved Matters - Erection of two storey 32 bed specialist care facility comprising 16 bed acquired brain injury unit and 16 bed learning disability unit with associated ancillary accommodation at Land To The East Of The Close, Greaves Hall Avenue, Banks.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING
Application No: 2013/0553/FUL* Single storey extension to rear at 1 Flax Lane, Burscough.
Application No: 2013/0567/LBC Listed Building Consent: - Part demolition of existing single storey extension and erection of a single storey extension to rear at Hatherleigh, 1 Flax Lane, Burscough.
Application No: 2013/0584/FUL* Demolition of existing single storey side extension and erection of part two storey/part single storey extension at side/rear. Closure of existing vehicular access and formation of new vehicular access at Greenways, Ash Brow, Newburgh.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's web site www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to the Planning Division, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.
* Householder Applications
In the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any comments made will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Assistant Director Planning — Dated: 19th June 2013 PDNOT673

1120085

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PRAYER

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. **L.J.H.**

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. 42122

THANK YOU Saint Jude. More prayers needed. JH (42857)

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. **J.M.H.**

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. 42123

DEAR SACRED HEART OF JESUS 42831

In the past I have asked for many favours.
This time I ask for one special favour.
(mention it)

Take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favour, not mine.

Amen

Say this prayer for three days, promise publication and your favour will be granted. Never to be failed.

H.D.

DEATHS

CARROLL
Vera
11th June 2013

Peacefully in her 91st year.

She will be greatly missed by all her loving Family, daughters, sons, and all her wonderful grandchildren. Requiem mass will be celebrated on Friday 28th June at 12 Noon at Our Lady of Compassion RC Church, Formby followed by cremation at Southport Crematorium at 1.20pm. The family wish to ask for celebration dress rather than black tie dress for the celebration of Vera's Life. Family flowers only, donations if desired payable to "Breast Cancer Care" c/o Dean Bros Funeral Directors. Deans Court, 76 Gores Lane, Formby Ltd. or www.justgiving.com/DB-veracarroll

1120000

BOURKE
LYNN
on 12th June 2013

We think of you with love today, but that's nothing new.
We thought about you yesterday, and the day before that too.
We'll think of you tomorrow, as we will our whole lives through.
For the day we fail to think of you, is the day we'll be with you.

From all your loving family
xxx

1120090

PRAYER

HOLY SPIRIT

You, who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideals. You, who gave the Divine Gift to forgive and forget all that is done to me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and affirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in their perpetual glory. To that end, and submitting to God's Holy Will, I ask You *(mention your request).*

This prayer must be said for three consecutive days. After the third day the request will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish the entire dialogue as a condition of having your request granted.

J.S.

42884

DEATHS

CRESWELL
Gary Ian
on 12th June 2013

Aged 51 years.

Loving Dad of Melissa and Colin, devoted Grandad of all his Grandchildren, a cherished Son and dear Brother to his Brother's and Sister, his kind heart and ways will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Funeral service followed by interment will take place at St. Paul's Church on Monday 24th June at 1.00pm. All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868.

1120100

Bargains galore in Classified

BOURKE
Lynn
12th June 2013

Peacefully in hospital surrounded by her loving family aged 60 years.

Loving wife of Jimmy, devoted mum of Andy and Joy, cherished nan of all her grandchildren and a dear mother in law of Ann and Peter. Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral service will take place at St. Helen's crematorium on Monday 24th June at 10.30am. Family flowers only please by request donations if desired for the Hillsborough Fund.
All enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service
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1120098

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3	00475	Mrs P Lockett	£50
4	52962	Ms J Paul	£50

1120024

IN MEMORIAM

MUNRO
Sarah (Sal)

4th Sept 1951 to 19th June 2007

I can't believe another year has gone by.
Love you and miss you more than ever
Loving Husband
Tony
XXX

Children
Diane, Gerard and John
Grandchildren
Grace, Caleb and Ethan
XXX

42839

DAVID B MORTON
28.1.1933 - 24.6.2012

Sadly missed by his wife Audrey & family.
Ashes scattered at sea 13th May 2013
"You were simply the best"

42855

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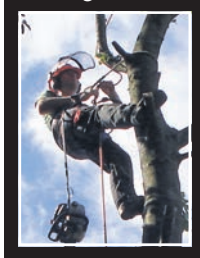

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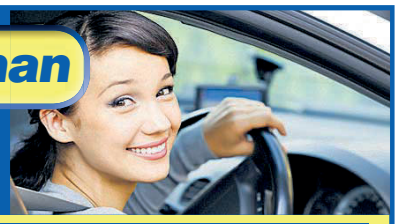

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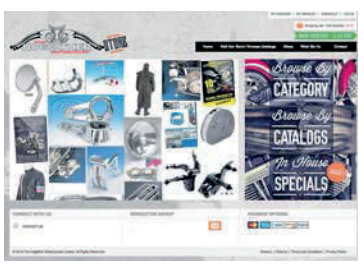

just that and over the course of the last two years has stolen a march on the rest of the industry, investing a massive amount of knowledge and experience into developing the ultimate e-commerce system for the motorcycle sector.

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There are plans to introduce a loyalty bonus scheme to look after repeat customers, and recognition that success depends on meeting their commitment to expedient delivery at the best price.

To celebrate ten years since Yeti first set out his plans for The Hogfather Motorcycles, albeit under a different name - and as an introductory offer to Champion readers - he is offering a 10% discount up to the end of June! To claim your discount, simply enter CHAMPION when prompted. The discount will then be applied to your invoice total before payment is taken.

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Plethora of classic cars on show at Cholmondeley Pageant of Power

Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER
www.lifeoncars.blogspot.com

THE sight, sound and smell of supercars strutting their stuff at a stately home in Cheshire proved a bombardment for the senses last weekend.

It's that wonderful time of year when the sun tries its best to break through the cloud, scores of mouthwatering motors emerge from hibernation, and enterprising petrolheads bring them all together in fields and parks across the north west.

It is, if you're really into wandering around looking at automotive exotica, entirely possible to end up at a car show every single weekend because there are so many of them across the north west, to the point where you have to start being picky about which ones you go to!

The Cholmondeley Pageant of Power, however, is one I'll always put down in my diary, because it's a bombardment to the automotive senses.

If you haven't been – and you should, because it's only an hour away in the car, in the greener bits of deepest Cheshire – then you're missing out on a treat.

In a nutshell, it involves taking over the grounds of a stately home, turning it into a sort of improvised racetrack and then setting off some of the world's most exciting cars around it to see how fast they can go.

Not only can you get up close to Ferraris and Bugattis and scary Group B rally cars, but you can watch them burning rubber and going flat out too.

I tried totting up the value of the various bits of automotive exotica parked up in the paddock but I lost count when I got to the trio of Le Mans–winning Bentleys – and instead just immersed myself in how stunning these bits of motoring beauty were.

I'd try and listen to the loudspeakers for more information from the commentators, but every 30 seconds or so he'd be drowned out by the sound of a Ford GT40 roaring past.

Then, if you traipsed past the food stalls and hunted down the rally sections, you could decide whether you'd prefer a Ford Escort RS1800 or a Group B Audi Quattro in your dream garage!

The spectacle of seeing, hearing and even smelling these incredible machines makes the Pageant of Power what it is, and it was great that thousands of people were enjoying it alongside me, even when it was chucking it down with rain.

If you managed to make it to Cholmondeley last weekend, you'll know why I rate it as one of the best motoring events not just in the north west, but in the whole country. If you didn't, make sure you jot the dates of next year's event down in your diary.

It really is that good.

Tell us what you think!
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Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of	
£6995	Nil	£26.90	0% APR

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Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of
£4995	Nil	£19.21

0% APR

10 Reg Ford Focus

Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of
£6495	Nil	£24.98

0% APR

09 Reg Vauxhall Astra

Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of
£4995	Nil	£19.21

0% APR

60 Reg Vauxhall Meriva

Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of
£6995	Nil	£26.90

0% APR

09 Reg Renault Clio

Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of
£5995	Nil	£23.06

0% APR

09 Reg Vauxhall Corsa

Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of
£4995	Nil	£19.21

0% APR

09 Reg Peugeot 207

Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of
£3995	Nil	£15.37

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10 Reg Ford Fiesta

Cash Price & Total Payable	Deposit	260 Weekly Payments of
£6495	Nil	£24.98

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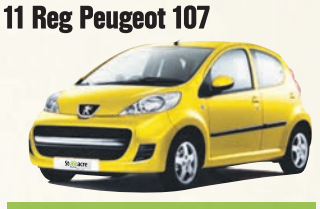
11 Reg Peugeot 107



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*Terms and conditions apply. Part Exchange vehicles can be any age or mileage but must be roadworthy, have at least 30 days MOT, current road fund licence, and must have been owned by the customer for at least 90 days. Prices advertised are after £1000 minimum part exchange. All prices are based on full partner and are limited to vehicles in 06 Vauxhall stock. Vehicles must be registered before 30th June 2013. Prices for associate partner and non-partners will vary. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other advertised offers. Finance subject to status, written quotations available on request. †0% APR and minimum part exchange not applicable on this vehicle

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10/10 CHEVROLET AVEO 1.4 LT 5DR BLACK, 39075 MILES	£3999	£86	£86
08/08 FORD FOCUS 1.5 ZETEC 5DR BLUE, 86540 MILES	£4999	£109	£109
09/58 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 CLUB 5DR SILVER, 47300 MILES	£5299	£115	£115
08/08 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 SXI 3DR BLACK, 27500 MILES	£5699	£123	£123
11/11 VAUXHALL AGILA 1.0 12V S MPV SILVER, 11335 MILES	£5999	£129	£129
12/12 CHEVROLET SPARK 1.2 LT 5DR SILVER, 13921 MILES	£5999	£129	£129
09/59 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 SXI 16V 3DR SILVER, 21663 MILES	£6490	£139	£139
09/09 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 EXCLUSIV 5DR RED, 39650 MILES	£6799	£149	£149
08/58 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 2.0 DESIGN 5DR BLUE, 66129 MILES	£6999	£149	£149
11/11 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 EXCLUSIV TURBO 138 MINI MPV BLUE, 40221 MILES	£6999	£149	£149
10/10 RENAULT GR 1.4 SCENIC EXPR-N DCI 106 ESTATE BEIGE, 43000 MILES	£7499	£159	£159
12/12 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SXI AC 5DR SILVER, 18527 MILES	£7999	£159	£159
12/62 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SE 5DR BROWN, 12312 MILES	£7999	£159	£159
11/11 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 EXCLUSIV 98 5DR SILVER, 43661 MILES	£8799	£189	£189
10/10 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TITANIUM TDCI 140 ESTATE GREY, 84000 MILES	£8999	£195	£195
12/12 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 EXCLUSIV 113 5DR SILVER, 17894 MILES	£9699	£209	£209
12/12 VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 SRI CDTI 5DR BLACK, 25179 MILES	£10800	£215	£215
12/12 VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 SRI CDTI 5DR SILVER, 25370 MILES	£10800	£215	£215

	PRICE	DEPOSIT	PER MONTH
11/11 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 SRI 158 CDTI 5DR BLUE, 40114 MILES	£10999	£239	£239
11/11 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 SRI VX 5DR BLUE, 23000 MILES	£11990	£259	£259
12/12 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.7 SE CDTI 5DR GREY, 23369 MILES	£11999	£239	£239
12/12 VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 SRI CDTI 5DR SILVER, 7694 MILES	£11999	£259	£259
12/62 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 ELITE AUTO 5DR SILVER, 10289 MILES	£12499	£249	£249
12/62 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 SRI 5DR SILVER, 10896 MILES	£12999	£259	£259
12/12 FORD MONDEO 2.0 ZETEC TDCI 5DR SILVER, 11314 MILES	£13499	£269	£269
12/12 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 SRI NAV CDT ESTATE BLACK, 19687 MILES	£13599	£295	£295
12/62 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 SRI NAV 5DR WHITE, 12920 MILES	£15489	£309	£309
12/12 VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 ELITE NAV CDTI ESTATE SILVER, 25241 MILES	£15999	£339	£339
11/61 BMW 320D 2.0 M SPORT AUTO 4DR GREY, 21932 MILES	£17499	£359	£359

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Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Citigo: Urban 50.4 (5.6) – 56.5 (5.0), Extra Urban 70.6 (4.0) – 78.5 (3.6), Combined 62.8 (4.5) – 68.9 (4.1). Citigo CO_2 emissions 105 – 96 g/km. Standard EU Test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the: **107 range:** Urban 52.3 – 55.4 (5.4 – 5.1), Extra Urban 70.7 – 74.3 (4.0 – 3.8), Combined 62.8 – 65.7 (4.5 – 4.3) and CO_2 104 – 99. **208 range:** Urban 34.9 – 78.4 (8.1 – 3.6), Extra Urban 62.8 – 88.2 (4.5 – 3.2), Combined 48.7 – 83.0 (5.8 – 3.4) and CO_2 135 – 87. **3008 range:** Urban 28.2 – 72.4 (10.0 – 3.9), Extra Urban 48.7 – 76.3 (5.8 – 3.7), Combined 38.7 – 74.4 (7.3 – 3.8), CO_2 172 – 99.

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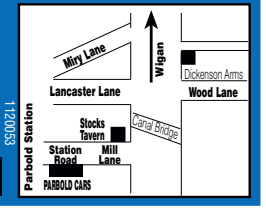

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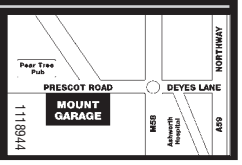

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Tommy Lawson picks up Evo–Stick NPL Manager of the Year award

By Neil Leatherbarrow

SKELMERSDALE United manager Tommy Lawson was in celebratory mood again on Saturday evening when he was named Evo–Stik Northern Premier League Manager of the Year in front of a full house at the Hilton Hotel Blackpool.

Clearly popular among his peers, he received a rousing standing ovation when he went up to collect the award.

As usual, Tommy was quick to thank others for the help they have given him all season. He said: "I am delighted for myself, Brian (Richardson, assistant manager) and the coaching staff who have all contributed their part to this great honour.

"I am also delighted for the club as it really does reflect the achievements this season. To win this award ahead of the other 60–odd managers in the league is a great compliment."

"I won the NW Counties award twice with Prescot Cables, but this is special because Skelmersdale are my local club, plus it is in a higher standard of football."

Looking ahead to the new season in the Evo–Stik Premier Division, Tommy added: "The close season is going very encouragingly and I expect to announce a couple of new signings in the next few days."

• CENTRE–forward Josh Hine who fired 29 league and cup goals for Skem last season has joined United's Evo–Stik Premier League rivals, Chorley.

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Farrell and Caunce see off Highfield challenge as Ormskirk go fourth

ORMSKIRK lie in fourth place in the in the Liverpool & District Cricket Competition Premier Division after a comfortable 74 run home win over bottom placed Highfield.

After electing to bat the hosts were bowled out for 210 in 49 overs, with Matt Morgan (40), Ian Robinson (34), John Armstrong (29), Matty Glayzer (27) and Andy Baybutt (22) in good touch, whilst James Taylor was the pick of the visitors' bowling attack with 4–54.

In reply 54 from Michael Gaskell gave Highfield a solid start (72–1) before Martyn Farrell (5–29) and Nick Caunce (4–36) turned the match on its head and helped dismiss the visitors for 136 in 47.2 overs.

Hightown played host to Fleetwood Hesketh and put the visitors in to bat, and Neil Rimmer then batted himself back into a bit of form with 41 and Derek Sykes hit 22 as Fleetwood were bowled out for 142, with Ian Sutcliffe (4–27) and Aaron Halsall (4–35) both producing fine displays with the ball.

In reply Hightown got off to a decent start through D'Arcy Short (34) but then crumbled from 39–1 to 97 all out, with Adnan Malik weaving his way through the batting line up to take a superb 8–30 and give his side a much valuable 45 run victory.

Southport & Birkdale recorded a 10 wicket victory over last season's champions Lytham.

Chris Firth put the hosts in to bat and was duly rewarded by his fellow bowlers as Jordan Bell (3–6), Craig Todd (3–44), and Josh Hine (2–24) helped dismiss Lytham for 91 with Alex Davies top scoring with 22.

In reply Hine (65*) and Mark Fletcher (19*) then quickly dispatched the ball to all parts of the ground as they raced to 93–0 in just 14.5 overs.

Maghull are third in the table after a 52 run home win over Bootle, after electing to bat Maghull eventually declared after 59 overs on 232–5, with Greg Gillespie (74), Chris Tonge (32), Jon Ring (31), Sabah Ghaus (26*), Donovan Pell (22) and Sairaj Patel (22) all scoring vital runs. In reply most of Bootle's top order made a decent start with Jordan Evans (38) and Glenn Aitken (32) top scoring, but with wickets steadily tumbling at both ends they slipped from 146–4 to 180 all out, with Ghaus (4–36) and Jack Snowden (3–34) the pick of the bowlers.

Northern remain in top spot after a low scoring closely fought three run home win over Wallasey, after electing to bat the hosts skipper James Cole (61) was the only batsman able to offer much with the willow as his side were bowled out for 118, with Neil Cross (4–5), Chris Bourne (3–34) and Matt Wilcox (3–44) all in fine form with the ball. In reply the visitors looked to be cruising on 81–4 before a remarkable spell of bowling from Jack Woosey (5–35) and Tom Sephton (4–53) reduced them to 115–8 then 115 all out, with Woosey claiming two wickets in two balls to secure victory.

Ormskirk visit Maghull at the weekend.

Burscough storm to huge victory

BURSCOUGH continue to climb the Second Division table after a commanding 101 run victory at Prestatyn, after being asked to bat first the visitors rattled up 271–4 dec in 50 overs, with Brendan Domigan (91*), skipper Lee Berrie (70), Ryan Hughes (37*), Mike Bimpson (31) and Chris Andrews (25) all in fine form.

In reply a great team bowling display combined to dismiss the hosts for 170 with Matt White (3–21) the pick of the attack.

Skem denied win by stubborn St Helens

SKELEMERSDALE had to settle for a draw on Saturday.

Batting first Skelmersdale were 82 for 5 at one stage before in–form Andrew Griffiths joined skipper Ben Maddocks and the score moved to 103 when Maddocks was caught for 19 carefully acquired runs.

Next man in, Luke Manley seemed to find his timing immediately and the score quickly moved to 120 before Griffiths was caught for 8. When Manley was joined by Kyle Till the run–rate increased again, and Manley reached 47 with an array of attacking shots, before being caught and bowled by Stark. Skelmersdale junior Matthew Wright joined Till and the pair took Skelmersdale to 191 when Till became the ninth wicket to fall for 23, at which stage Skelmersdale declared in the 55th over.

In the field Skem got an early breakthrough with the score on 5, when Griffiths trapped Williams LBW for one and they soon had four down for 99, as the dangerous Gaskell was given LBW to Maddocks for 45 runs.

With the score on 111, three St Helens wickets fell in quick succession. St Helens had slumped to 114 for 7 and the odds were on a Skem win. It was not to be due to a stubborn rearguard action by the tailenders and the game fizzled out into a draw as St Helens closed on 140 for 8.

Dalton hold out for draw after collapse

DALTON'S Connor Burton dented Newburgh's start until Andy Birks (33) and Michael Simpson (33 no) enabled the hosts to finish on 175 that included 43 extras. The Beaconites also suffered an early double blow, and also recovered with Richard Whitehead's 35 and Javid Patel's 20, but their departure heralded a collapse leaving Matt Davies (11 no) and Burton to scrape out a draw on 94–9 as Birks took 6–14 off 9 overs.

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